MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 AUGUST 1986

Israel

A solution to the Middle East conflict requires Israeli participation in an internationally sponsored conference, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told Labor Party members in an address reported by Jerusalem radio, stressing that if Israel fails to attend such a conference it is destined to "negotiate with itself." The conference should allow all parties to speak to each other directly and to raise ideas for discussion without preconditions, he indicated. Peres pointed out that agreeing to Palestinian participation in such a conference does not imply acceptance of Palestinian self-determination.

In another development, the radio reported that Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will work out guidelines for an Israeli team that will meet with Soviet representatives in Western Europe shortly. The Israeli-Soviet talks will deal with consular ties and the possibility of a Soviet survey of assets belonging to the Russian Church in Israel.

As for Israeli-U.S. relations, "reliable sources" cited by *Yedi'ot Aharonot* asserted that Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has no intention of accepting U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger's "draconian" conditions for funding the Lavi aircraft project.

Lebanon

In a 1 August speech to newly graduated Army officers, broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio, President Amin al-Jumayyil proposed that the Chamber of Deputies and the government convene a joint session to discuss political accord in light of existing reform proposals and plans. He called for reconciliation and dialogue between the warring sides, the gradual elimination of sectarianism, and a redefinition of the powers of top political posts. The president also stressed the need for "special and outstanding" relations with Syria and urged President Hafiz al-Asad to continue the "efforts and pledges" he has made on Lebanon's behalf.

As for the security situation, the Voice of Lebanon cited reports that over 100 men from Syria's Special Units arrived in West Beirut 31 July, noting that the force has been brought in to help implement the security plan in the southern suburb. Meanwhile, Hizballah sources affirmed that Hizballah will resist any Syrian attempt to enter the southern suburb, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

In southern Lebanon, an IDF sergeant was killed in exchanges of fire with a "terrorist" squad 31 July, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by IDF radio. Two terrorists were killed in the incident, which occurred 7 km north of the Israeli border. The army of southern Lebanon subsequently killed three more terrorists north of the security strip, according to Jerusalem radio.

Syria

President al-Asad deplored the Moroccan king's "abominable treasonous deed" in a message to the Armed Forces broadcast by Damascus radio, asserting that King Hassan's meeting with Shim'on Peres is an example of an Arab ruler falling into "the mud of treason" out of greed for "transitory wealth" and in order to satisfy Washington and Tel Aviv. While Israel is stockpiling weapons in order to continue its "occupation and aggression," he said, Arab regimes and sides are seeking to sell the Arab cause for "the cheapest price." Regarding Syria's target of "strategic balance" with Israel, he stressed the need to redouble efforts to obtain "further elements of power" in order to shorten the time needed to overcome challenges and regain Arab territory and rights.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes hit maritime targets off the Iranian coast 31 July and 1 August, according to military announcements carried by INA and Voice of the Masses radio. Athens radio said a Greek tanker was damaged by a missile east of Qatar early 1 August. Earlier, Voice of the Masses radio broadcast an Iraqi communique which confirmed the 31 July Iraqi air raid on Dow Rud, stating that Iraqi planes scored direct hits on two cement factories in the area.

Commenting on the recent Iraqi air raids, Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed that Iran will be obliged to retaliate in kind by hitting Iraqi economic, industrial, and military targets with missiles, aircraft, and artillery. Speaking in an interview broadcast by Tehran radio, he warned Iraqi civilians to stay away from Baghdad, Basra, Al-'Amarah, Kirkuk, and Al-Nasiriyah. The Majlis speaker downplayed recent Iranian talk that this year will be "the year of victory," noting that while Iran intends to achieve "considerable" victories this year, this "does not mean that the war will come to an end." Hashemi-Rafsanjani also discussed the implications of his recent warning to Gulf states concerning their support for Iraq, stressing that while Iran reserves the right to take "revenge" on them, it has not decided to go to war with them and does not intend to expand the war. Acknowledging that his warning contained an "ambiguous sentence," he accused the Americans of taking advantage of this to issue their "impudent" warning that the United States will not stand aside if its vital interests in the Gulf are jeopardized.

Sudan

After lengthy talks with Sudanese People's Liberation Movement leader Colonel John Garang in Addis Ababa 31 July, Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi told SUNA that the meeting resulted in nothing new except for an agreement to continue the dialogue. The two sides held different views on the interpretation of the Koka Dam declaration and on the future of the legal system following the cancellation of the September 1983 laws, he noted.

Meanwhile, the SPLA's clandestine radio claimed that Garang's forces recently killed over 140 government troops in attacks in the Bentiu and Gogrial areas of southern Sudan.

OPEC Meeting

OPECNA reported the OPEC president's announcement that 11 OPEC member-countries have agreed to apply voluntary oil production cuts pending an overall quota agreement.

DRA

The PDPA Politburo criticized "serious shortcomings" in various state and party institutions, dismissed the deputy secretary of Takhar provincial party committee, and instructed the attorney general to consider dismissing his deputy and other judicial officials for neglecting their duties, Kabul radio reported.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 148

1 August 1986

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Najibullah Congratulates Pakistani Opposition Head ..... C 1
PDPA Plenum Debates State Growth Plan ..... C 1
Babrak Karmal Chairs Revolutionary Council Session ..... C 2
Karachi Reports on 1st Day of Geneva Talks ..... C 3
BAKHTAR Commentary Views Gorbachev Address *[1 Aug]* ..... C 3
Reportage on 'Successful Operations' Against Rebels ..... C 4
BIA Report ..... C 4
'Bandits' Killed, Materiel Seized ..... C 4
'Counterrevolutionaries' 'Crushed' ..... C 4
Karmal Approves Prospective GDR Ambassador ..... C 5

INDIA

Delhi Commentary on USSR Pullout From Afghanistan ..... E 1
Shanker: PRC Response on Intrusion Not Satisfactory ..... E 2
Foreign Minister Returns From Dhaka, Comments on Ties ..... E 2

IRAN

Hashemi-Rafsanjani: Iran To Hit Iraqi Economic Centers ..... I 1
Khamene'i Warns of Attacks ..... I 2
Khomeyni Casts Ballot in Midterm Elections ..... I 3
Sarmadi on USSR Withdrawal From Afghanistan ..... I 3
'Fruitful' Economic Talks With France Conclude ..... I 3
Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq ..... I 3
Communique No 2,549 ..... I 3
School Hit in Bombing of Do Rud ..... I 3

Najibullah Congratulates Pakistani Opposition Head

LD302016 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 Jul 86

[Text] The following congratulatory telegram was sent by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, to Khan Abdul Wali Khan on his election as leader of the Awami National Party:

Dear Brother Abdul Wali Khan. With profound pleasure and delight I heard the news of the amalgamation of the four progressive, democratic and anti-imperialist parties: the National Democratic Party, the Pakistan National Party, Awami Tahrik and the Mazdoor Kisan Party, in a single political (?union), named the Awami National Party, which in the constituent session of its national assembly elected you as leader and Sardar Shawkat Ali as secretary general.

On behalf of the PDPA and myself, from the bottom of my heart, I congratulate you and through you all members of your party.

We believe that by the formation of the Awami National Party, the process toward unity and the consolidation of all national and democratic forces is becoming more powerful and is being consolidated. At the same time, it will be transformed into a source and center of unity and will aid further conhesion.

We hope that this unity will provide new energy for the struggle of the Pakistani people against imperialism and for democracy, social justice, and the restoration of the people's national rights.

We hope it also fulfills the aspirations of the Pakistani people for the restoration of a peaceful atmosphere in the region on the basis of the genuine policy of nonalignment and national independence.

We appreciate the statement of the Awami National Party regarding solidarity with the national and democratic April Revolution.

For our part, we assure that the PDPA and all patriotic Afghan people, who themselves are engaged in the struggle against the bloody and undeclared war, shameless intervention by imperialism and reaction, the defense of the gains of the revolution, and freedom and national independence, support your just struggle for peace, independence, and social progress.

Under conditions where the Satanic intervention of imperialism against the interests of the people is seriously threatening the peace and security of our region, the unity, solidarity, and common action of anti-imperialist forces is very important in the struggle for the restoration and safeguarding of peace.

On this occasion I deem it necessary to convey the best wishes of the revolutionary people of Afghanistan, who desire to live peacefully with the Pakistani people and the people of other neighboring countries on the basis of the policy of good-neighborliness, to the Muslim and toiling people of Pakistan.

In conclusion, once again I express my congratulations on the formation of the Awami National Party and your election as leader of the Awami National Party, and Sardar Shawkat Ali, on his election as secretary general of the Awami National Party.

I wish you good health and further victories.

With due respect,

[Signed] Your brother Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, Kabul, 29 July 1986

PDPA Plenum Debates State Growth Plan

LD312211 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] A regular PDPA Central Committee Politburo session was convened today, at which specific issues regarding the implementation of the following duties and demands of the 19th PDPA Central Committee Plenum were assessed and the necessary decisions made.

The results of the implementation of the DRA socioeconomic growth plan during the first quarter of 1365 [year beginning 21 March 1986] and measures to remove existing backwardness were assessed. A resolution was approved in this regard, which states, among other things: The PDPA Central Committee Politburo points out that despite the fact that the first quarter plan was implemented in whole with regard to industrial production, there still exist serious shortcomings in the work of a number of ministries, state offices, party committees, and people's power organs in the villages. All possibilities and reserves have not been used to increase the production of output. Among the 17 ministries and offices, 7 were not able to carry out the planned duties. The production of cement, bottled oxygen, iron, concrete, bricks, ginned cotton, meat, and vegetable oil was reduced compared to the same period of last year. The plan for industrial output was not implemented by the Ministries of Light Industry and Foodstuffs, Commerce, and Electrical Energy. Implementation of land and water reform has not been achieved. Cultivated areas for cereals and industrial plants have been reduced. Important indices have not been implemented in the (?air) transportation, the private sector of goods transportation, and in some other trade spheres. Investments have not been fully utilized, especially in the border provinces.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo confirmed that the attention of the consultant delegations of the ministries, offices, and responsible bodies — Comrades L'mar, Lakanwal, Paktin, Bawar, and the esteemed Jalalar — should take note of this issue as they have not taken the necessary measures to implement the 1356 first quarter plan. They are dutybound to remove the existing shortcomings and backwardness during the second quarter of the current year.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo warned that nonimplementation of the plans will be assessed as a violation of state plan and party discipline; serious penal measures will be imposed

on those who are guilty, up to relieving them of their relevant duties.

The ministries, offices, party organizations, unions, and youth and other social organizations are dutybound to get work started in the production colllectives to implement the plans and duty commitments of the first year of the first 5-year plan after the revolution.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo emphasized that all technical, economic, political, and organizational training bodies should be centralized in production collectives and led by experts. Effort must be made to gain maximum output from each machine, from each unit of equipment, and from each square meter of land. The quality of output should increase and the cost price should be reduced. The vanguard and initiators of production should comprehensively be supported and protected. Their experiences and work methods should be followed and maintained. High output should be encouraged financially and morally. The (?moblize forces) of the decisions of the recent PDPA Central Committee plenums should be used in this regard.

Issues regarding the political, social, and training activities of Takhar provincial party committee were also considered. It was pointed out that despite work accomplished, the activities of the Takhar provincial party committee do not correspond to the present demands of the party and revolution. The Takhar provincial party committee and its executive bureau have not drawn timely and appropriate results from decisions of the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum on the broadening of the social pillars of the people's revolutionary sovereignty. There are serious weaknesses and defects in the manner of their work.

In connection with this issue, the PDPA Central Committee Politburo has relieved Comrade Zekrollah Latifi from his post as deputy secretary of Takhar provincial party committee for reasons of weaknesses in the accomplishment of party duties, and instructed the Takhar provincial party committee to solve the situation and secure the unreserved implementation of the decisions and resolutions of the 16th and subsequent PDPA Central Committee plenums.

The report of Comrade Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Society, on the participation of the Afghan delegation at the national conference of the Peace and Solidarity Society of India and at the international conference on peace and security in Asia, held in Bangalor, India, was approved. The results of the activities of the Afghan delegation at these conferences were assessed as positive.

The results of the investigation by the PDPA Central Committee party control commission into neglect of duty by some of the leadership of the DRA Attorney General's office were assessed. It was pointed out that Ruholamin Ruhi, head of investigation; Abdol Ghafur Hematyar, head of study and research; Azataollah Asmati, Kabul City Prosecutor; (Asmatoliah) Kohkan, security office prosecutor; and Mohammad Akram Abqari, DRA deputy attorney general, behaved unlawfully and irresponsibily vis-a-vis their alloted duties. They neglected their duty concerning investigations into a number of criminal cases of theft which caused great losses to the government. As a result of their neglect, some dossiers had not been completed for many years.

In some cases, despite proof identifying the perpetrators of crimes, the above personnel, without responsibility, personally made decisions regarding the freedom of the perpetrators, and terminated investigation of the criminals' cases or failed to return property being held under security.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo instructed the DRA attorney general to consider the removal of the above persons from their duties, especially those who are members of the PDPA. Investigators and prosecutors who failed to properly consider criminal cases of major thefts should be lawfully questioned.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo, in consideration of the point that the observance of revolutionary legality is a serious demand of the party and people, draws the attention of Comrade Usman Rasekh, the DRA attorney general, to the need to remove shortcomings and to create the necessary order in the activities of the Attorney General's office.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo also considered a number of other domestic and international issues.

Babrak Karmal Chairs Revolutionary Council Session
LD302238 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 Jul 86

[Text] The session of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium was held yesterday afternoon at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council, chaired by Babrak Karmal, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium.

After the approval of the agenda, the report of the DRA Council of Ministers on the enhancement and improvement of the work of the government apparatus in accordance with the provision embodied in the resolution dated 3 Mizan 1364 [25 September 1985] was presented by Sayd Nasim Mayhanparast, vice chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers. This report was fully discussed by the members of the Revolutionary Council Presidium.

Comrade Babrak Karmal then, in his instructive talk on general issues, discussed the duties and work of the local organs of the state power and administration, the work of the executive committee of the people's delegates councils in the capitals of the provinces and localities, and their reciprocal relations with the government organs in the capital and provinces.

He pointed out that the activities of the departments and apparatus of the Revolutionary Council Presidium and the DRA Council of Ministers, under the leadership of the PDPA, must be harmonized with the accomplishment of the most fundamental duties of the local organs of state power and administration regarding the perception of the needs and demands of the people, seeking and finding ways for the solution of difficulties and their

problems, and broadening the social pillars of the revolution.

At this session of the DRA Revolutionary Council the draft law on considering financial disputes and the administration of government cases, the law on organization and authority of the DRA Sarandoy and the law of the DRA Public Prosecution Department, were comprehensively discussed and profoundly debated by the members of the Revolutionary Council Presidium.

In emphasizing the need for the compilation and drafting of the new laws, Comrade Babrak Karmal pointed out that these laws must respond to the needs of the people and revolution.

In endorsing the Public Prosecution Law our aim is to enable the organs of the country's Public Prosecution Department by relying on the powers given by this law, to discharge their duties in a suitable manner for the consolidation of revolutionary legality, social order, defense of state interest, combat against corruption, bribery, embezzlement, and injustice, and crimes against state security as active and powerful organs — defending the people and revolution.

The above laws were approved by the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium and will come into force after publication in the *Official Gazette*.

Karachi Reports on 1st Day of Geneva Talks
BK311547 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] The UN-sponsored proximity talks on Afghanistan between Pakistan and the Kabul administration resumed in Geneva today. The Pakistani delegation to the talks is being led by Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and the Kabul administration delegation by Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost. The talks are being held under the mediation of the UN secretary general's personal representative, Diego Cordovez.

In an interview, Cordovez said the Soviet promise to withdraw partially its troops from Afghanistan is a positive step and can prove very useful.

After about 4 hours of talks, a spokesman for the Pakistani delegation confirmed that Cordovez spent much of his time in removing misunderstandings which had cropped up on both sides after the postponement of talks on 23 May. It is understood that Pakistan expressed a lack of confidence in the Kabul administration's attitude toward these talks in view of the unreasonable and unacceptable timeframe of 4 years presented by the Kabul regime for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan apprised Cordovez of the incidents and developments that have taken place after the last round of talks in May and explained to him Pakistan's stand on them. He is reported to have told Cordovez that Pakistan will maintain its consistent positive attitude toward these negotiations on the future of Afghanistan, which have been going on for the past 4 years.

BAKHTAR Commentary Views Gorbachev Address
LD010625 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT
1 Aug 86

[Text] Kabul, July 30, BAKHTAR: A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

The speech of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU CC during the ceremony of presentation of the Order of Lenin to Vladivostock City has attracted the attention of the world public, particularly, that of the people of Afghanistan.

In the speech of Mikhail Gorbachev, the principles of peaceful foreign policy of the USSR vis-a-vis the acute international issues, in particular, those pertaining to the continents of Asia and the Pacific, have been set forth systematically.

On the basis of the principles of the foreign policy of the USSR, whose essence is preservation of peace, prevention of war and ensuring stability in the world, Mikahil Gorabchev once again elucidated the foreign policy of the USSR along with presentation of specific proposals and viewpoints regarding the strengthening of peace in the continent of Asia and the Pacific.

Naturally the constructive proposals and plans are not only of vital significance for Asia and the Pacific, but they enjoy similar importance for the whole world. Since Asia is the largest continent and almost two thirds of the population of the world live in this continent, the proposals enjoy great significance.

But as a result of the militarist and aggressive policy of imperialism, first and foremost, the U.S. imperialism, hot and dangerous beds of tension have been created in different regions of the continent.

The U.S. imperialism has intensified its strivings for expanding its military presence in the continent, formulating military pacts, dragging of the continent to the epicentre of dangerous tensions, creation of new military strategic axes and interference in the internal affairs of the countries of Asia and the Pacific.

It is natural that in such a situation, the peoples of Asia and the Pacific support the proposals of the Soviet leader for the consolidation of peace in the continent, in particular, the plan for inclusion of the region of Asia and the Pacific in the general process of international security system.

The ideas reflected in the statements of Mikhail Gorbachev concerning the consolidation of peace in Asia and the Pacific as well as his specific and realistic proposals in this connection have eben unanimously welcomed by the people of Afghanistan who have been the victims of the aggressive policy of imperialism, first and foremost, the U.S. imperialism.

Prominence has been given to the situation around Afghanistan in the speech of Mikhail Gorbachev. The Soviet leader

announced the return of a part of the limited contingents of the USSR who on the request of the Government of Afghanistan are rendering assistance to the people of Afghanistan for defeating the imperialist and reactionary undeclared war against the DRA.

The people of Afghanistan highly evaluate the decision and consider it a great step towards the peaceful solution of the issues around Afghanistan which have been created by creation and imperialism.

The Soviet Union once again explicitly showed that it gives its sincere and honest support for the peaceful solution of the situation around Afghanistan. It demonstrates the unity of its words with its practical deeds. The decision of the Soviet Union rules out the pretexts of the enemies who want to create obstacles against the process of the political solution.

Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA CC, stated in his radio-televised speech: "We are confident that these measures would be a convincing reply against the dirty and ubridled anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet propaganda which are ever-further flared up by imperialism and reaction by every passing day."

The decision once again showed that who is defying the political solution of the situation and which forces are taking practical actions in this path.

We are convinced that this step is a big and serious step for the acceleration of the peaceful solution of the issues around Afghanistan but the achievement of the political solution does not depend on this step alone. Now it depends upon the opposite side to return goodwill for goodwill, by embarking upon practical mutual steps.

This would be the criterion of the test of good intentions of those who intensify in action the undeclared war against the DRA but in word express their support to the political solution of the issues around Afghanistan. If this decision is accompanied with a similar action of the opposite side, that is, the termination of the intervention into the internal affairs of the DRA, as Mikhail Gorbachev stated, this would be a stimulant to the Geneva talks between the DRA and Paksitan to make the peaceful solution of the issues possible.

The people of Afghanistan welcomed the assertions of the Soviet leader that if the aggressions continues against the DRA, the Soviet Union will not leave its neighbour alone.

The people of Afghanistan have tested this fraternal committment in action and believe in it. Those who move ahead the undeclared war against us should understand that the DRA and the Soviet Union have traversed half the path for the acceleration of the peaceful solution with honest and practical measures. Now it is up to the other sides that if they are honest they should also traverse the other half.

Reportage on 'Successful Operations' Against Rebels

BIA Report

LD301737 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 Jul 86

[Text] The BIA *[BAKHTAR Information Agency]* reports that as a result of the successful operations carried out by the courageous Armed Forces of the country in the environs of Baghlan Province, a number of the counterrevolutionary elements were crushed.

One mortar and several various weapons together with their 17,700 rounds of ammunition, 34 rocket shells and a number of antitank and antipersonnel mines were seized by the Armed Forces.

'Bandits' Killed, Materiel Seized

LD010647 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 1 Aug 86

[Text] Kabul, July 31, BAKHTAR: A 40 member group of counter-revolutionaries alongside it's ringleader named Asil belonging to criminal Jamiate-band was crushed in a successful operation carried out by the Armed Forces of the DRA in Mohammad Agheh District, Lowgar Province.

In another operation in Vardak Province a number of bandits were killed and their 16 hideouts were destroyed.

Also a large number of counter-revolutionaries were killed in other operations took place in Qandahar, and Baghlan Provinces.

During these operations, 20 ground to ground missiles, 300 anti-tank mines, 170 mortars, 12 box chinese made machineguns bullets, a large amount of explosive materials, 40 rocket launchers as well as 70,000 bullets were seized.

'Counterrevolutionaries' 'Crushed'

LD312146 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] A BIA correspondent reports that as a result of successful operations, which were carried out in the region of Naray, Khost Maj-District by Armed forces to free the noble inhabitants of that area from the oppression of the savage counterrevolutionaries, a number of counterrevolutionary elements including Gol Afzal, a ringleader of the so-called Hezb-e Eslami, were crushed; and a large number of arms and ammunition were siezed by the security forces.

According to another report, as a result of successful operations, which were carried out recently to clean up the villages of Sanjitak, Takht-e Rustam, Abragh Ali, and Khoja Esmail in Samangan Province, a number of counterrevolutionaries, including six ringleaders of the Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami andEslami bands, Mullah Adina, Shojahuddin, Kamaluddin, Namatullah, Salamanqol, and Qader were crushed.

Eleven assorted U.S. and Chinese weapons, a rocket launcher with 9 shells, a heavy machine gun with its 5 [word indistinct] spare, 13 antitank mines, 6 bags of explosives, and a number of antistate papers and documents were siezed from them by the security forces.

In the course of successful operations by the country's heroic armed forces, which were carried out to wipe out the rebels from the vicinity of Wardag Province, a number of counterrevolutionaries who were disturbing the peaceful life of the inhabitants there were crushed and strong positions were set fire; their 16 nests were destroyed.

Two rocket launchers, several assorted weapons, with 35,950 bullets, 800 mortar-mines, 4 [word indistinct], and 15 antitank and antipersonnel mines were seized by the armed forces.

According to another report, as result of successful operations, which were carried out with the cooperation of inhabitants in the vicinity of Kandahar Province, to wipe out the area from the existing of criminals, a number of counterrevolutionaries were crushed.

The security forces seized from them: 130 mortar mines, several assorted weapons, 6 [word indistinct], and 11 antitank and antipersonnel mines.

Karmal Approves Prospective GDR Ambassador

LD312239 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] Babrak Karmal, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, has recently agreed to the appointment of Kraft Bumbel as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the GDR in the DRA, which was requested by that country.

Delhi Commentary on USSR Pullout From Afghanistan
BK310925 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1545 GMT 30 Jul 86

[Foreign affairs commentator Ranjan Gupta's "Spotlight" program: "Soviet Troops Withdrawal From Afghanistan"]

[Text] The announcement by the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, that the Kremlin has decided to withdraw six regiments from Afghanistan by the end of 1986 needs to be hailed. Speaking at Vladivostok, a historic city which is a gateway to the Soviet Union from the Pacific, Mr Gorbachev said the six regiments would include one armored regiment, two motorized rifle regiments, and three antiaircraft artillery regiments along with all their equipment. Moreover, Mr Gorbachev said those who are interested could verify the withdrawal of the troops — an invitation without the mincing of too many words to the United States to verify the truth with their spy satellite.

The decision is a bold one. Because the fighting is not over in Afghanistan. Yet it must also be noted that the initiative had to first come from Moscow because it was Soviet troops in the first place who went into Afghanistan, a nonligned country. Now the question is: Will there be a matching response from the United States, who along with China, are providing arms, ammunition, and material support to Afghan rebels who operate out of Pakistan? Certainly, Mr Gorbachev's Vladivostok statement is in keeping with India's policy on Afghanistan, which is that there must not be any outside interference in the affairs of Afghanistan and the Afghans must be left free to determine their own destiny. For Indian policy on Afghanistan to succeed, there must be complete withdrawal of Soviet troops, and in this connection there is no need to doubt Mr Gorbachev's intention that all Soviet troops will be pulled out in a phased manner. The Soviet leader also informed Pakistan about the pullout of six regiments before he made his public speech — a gesture not without significance.

Yet I think, we must recognize that there is not going to be an unilateral withdrawal by the Soviets, nor is Afghanistan going to be handed over on a silver platter to Islamic fundamentalists who work out of Pakistan and enjoy considerable Pakistani patronage. Why then are the Soviets in the first place pulling out of Afghanistan? One, the presence of Soviet troops has been a source of considerable political embarrassment to the Kremlin, particularly in the Third World, as it shows the Soviet Union to be expansionist and neocolonialist. Second, the situation in Afghanistan is today quite different to what it was in 1979 when the first Soviet armored car crossed the Oxus. The semi-Marxist government in Kabul has been able to consolidate its position. The Afghan Army which was no more than a tribal fighting force before 1979 is now a professional fighting force which is well-trained, well-equipped, and well-fed, and could take care of itself in a limited combat. Finally, the pullout from Afghanistan has to be viewed along with the proposed pullout from Mongolia, the fence-mending with China and economic decentralization within the Soviet Union. In a word, it has to be seen in the context of the personality of Mikhail Gorbachev and his flexible style of functioning. Gorbachev wants to remove the Soviet Union from its straitjacket ties. He wants the country to take new policy direction and despite the historic heaviness of the Soviet character he wants it to be *in separate modern economic and diplomatic* trend, something which Mr Gorbachev will not be able to do if he has the albatross of Soviet military involvement around his neck.

The question is: Does the United States really want to let the Soviet Union get out of the political embarrassment it finds itself in Afghanistan? I think deep down in the American psyche it wants Afghanistan to be what Vietnam was to the United States. If Russians withdraw from Afghanistan, it must be in defeat, and there must be a government opposed to the Soviet installed in place of the present one in Kabul. Now, this is quite different to how the Kremlin views things. It wants to withdraw troops but leave behind a Marxist or at least leftist government in Afghanistan. There may be changes like the way Babrak Karmal made way for Najibullah and also attempts to make the regime more democratic and broadbased, but little else. Given this understanding of the Afghan situation by the Kremlin, will the White House accept it? Probably not. But it is not only the United States which does not want the Russians out of Afghanistan on their terms; it is also Pakistan.

Islamabad has been the biggest beneficiary of the crisis in Afghanistan. It has exploited the situation to muster powerful support from conservatives in the United States and it has used the Afghan situation to gain leverage with Washington and get its lifelong ambition of being treated on the same footing as India fulfilled. The Afghan problem has helped Pakistan completely modernize its Armed Forces which were crippled during the 1971 [Bangladesh] war. Under the guise of the Soviet threat it has got the Reagan administration to provide it the latest fighter jets, heavy artillery, and tanks. Mr Reagan also seems to be taking a very mild view of the nuclear bomb that Pakistan is on the threshold of developing — all this and more in the name of standing up to the Soviets in Afghanistan. If Soviet predicament in Afghanistan is good propaganda stuff for Washington, the Soviet presence in Kabul is a bonanza for Pakistan.

Of course, for complete normalcy to return to Afghanistan there must be a democratically elected government in Kabul. This is the way India views the situation in Afghanistan. The crisis in Afghanistan has taken its toll on the traditionally close relations that existed between Afghanistan and India. Indians now can no longer travel to Afghanistan as freely as they could. There is no longer the same availability of Indian books, magazines and films as before. Hundreds of Afghans had taken shelter in India. Neither the Afghan Marxists who rode into Kabul on the backs of Soviet soldiers nor the Islamic fundamentalists who live in Peshawar and dream of ruling Afghanistan can restore full democracy. That must come from an elected government. It is this that India means when it says that Afghans must be left free to determine their own future. We, of course, think of people determining their future the way we do in our country — the political parties, a free press, and an open society.

Afghans in their long history have had patches of political freedom and an independent foreign policy. Let us hope that they have it once again. What has to be realized is that Afghanistan is a neighboring country of the Soviet Union and, as Mr Gorbachev sharply pointed out in his speech, the Soviet Union's security is involved in Afghanistan. But quite definitely, the Soviet leaders want a maturer relationship with neighbors, be it

Afghanistan, Mongolia, or China. He is placing pragmatic self-interests of the nations involved above Stalinist expansionism which existed earlier. While the internal situation in Mongolia and China is stable, it is not so the case in Afghanistan. In some contrast to the proximity of Afghanistan to the Soviet Union, the Afghans are very far indeed from the United States. What this means is that the Americans with some safety to themselves can play around with the unsettled situation in Afghanistan just to be able to needle the Soviets.

It is rather ironical that while Gorbachev is pulling back from the forward policies of his predecessors, Reagan is turning more belligerent, at least as far as Afghanistan is concerned. First, he pampers Pakistan's military government. Then he received the delegation of Afghan rebels in the White House. There was no need at all to have laid out the red carpet for Afghan rebels in Washington, especially at a time when Moscow is trying to disentangle itself from the quagmire in Afghanistan. The State Department spokesman has now characterized the troop withdrawal offer as Soviet propaganda even before he had time to check on Russian sincerity. One cannot but feel that the only value for the Americans of Afghanistan is that it is a stick with which they can beat the Soviets. How, this is dangerous when it involves two superpowers, particularly for us in India, as Afghanistan is not too far from India's borders.

Mr Reagan should show more maturity when it comes to the trouble spots of the world. If there is stepped up military activity by Afghan rebels following troops withdrawal, it is certain that the Soviets will put an end to the pullout. This will indeed be tragic. Every effort, however feeble and small, should be encouraged to bring normalcy to Afghanistan. Mr Gorbachev is emerging as an European liberal leader. Even Western media say he is the first thinking Soviet statesman after Lenin. It is essential that he succeeds in Afghanistan to gain greater acceptability in the noncommunist world. To match the troops withdrawal scheme, Gorbachev should also try to make the Afghan Government more broad-based, bringing social democratic and liberal shades of opinion in a government of national reconciliation. To associate Islamic fundamentalists in any government in Kabul would be to undo any social and economic development in Afghanistan. In a long line of paradoxes, it is surprising that President Reagan should be supporting medieval fundamentalists who have nothing at all in common with a technological society. It is also ironical that in Afghanistan, certainly, Gorbachev is emerging as a liberal while Reagan is seen as a conservative. Reagan and Gorbachev are of course contrasting personalities; of that there is little doubt. In the final analysis, the Soviet intention to withdraw their troops is an important international development. The Soviets must also be congratulated for giving the United Nations' efforts at mediation its due place. But it is important that the wirbdrawal process is completed in totality, that there are no Soviet troops on the soil of Afghanistan, and that there is a broad-based and democratic government in Kabul. At the same time, American and Pakistani assistance to rebels must be stopped. Let's hope we have an announcement soon from Washington to say that military assistance to Afghan rebels and to Pakistan has been cut down. Till then, it is advantage to Gorbachev.

Shanker: PRC Response on Intrusion Not Satisfactory

BK010858 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 1 Aug 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Shiv Shanker, told the Lok Sabha today that China has not responded in a satisfactory manner to India's concern about the Chinese intrusion in in the Sumdorong Chu Valley area of Tawang District in Arunachal Pradesh. He was replying to a calling attention motion on the subject moved by Mr Dharampal Singh Malik, Congress-I, and others. He said the issue was discussed intensively in the boundary subgroup during the official level India-China talks in Beijing. The foreign secretary, who led the Indian delegation, also expressed the country's great concern over the Chinese intrusion during his meetings with the acting premier, Mr Wan Li, and the foreign minister, Mr Wu Xueqian. The Chinese were informed that since both sides had agreed to maintain peace and tranquility on the border such intrusions added to tension and vitiated the atmosphere for finding a satisfactory and just solution to the boundary question.

Mr Shiv Shanker told the house that the Chinese while expressing their desire for an early settlement of the boundary question did not respond to the concern in a satisfactory manner.

About the existence of a helipad said to have been built by the Chinese in the area, the minister said our information is that no such helipad exists there. However, the government is keeping a close watch on developments. Mr Shiv Shanker said that India will continue to strive for a peaceful settlement of the boundary question. We shall also persevere to resolve through peaceful negotiations the question of Chinese intrusion, he added.

In another reply, Mr P. Shiv Shanker informed the Lok Sabha today that India has repeatedly brought to the notice of Pakistan its involvement in training of Punjab terrorists. He said the government has told Pakistan that such activities that such activities are not conducive to the spirit of Simla Agreement. Mr Shiv Shanker said the question of Pakistan training terrorists was taken up by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, with General Ziaul Haq during their meeting in New Delhi in December last year. He said the finance minister, Mr V.P. Singh, and he himself had taken up the issue during their visits to Pakistan in February and April.

Foreign Minister Returns From Dhaka, Comments on Ties

BK311255 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Shiv Shanker, has expressed the hope that the river water dispute between India and Bangladesh will be solved soon. Speaking to newsmen on his return from Bangladesh today, he said Bangladesh has already started the process of taking back the Chakma refugees. Mr Shiv Shanker discussed with his Bangladesh counterpart and other ministers matters relating to the next SARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] meeting's agenda, setting up the office of the assistant high commissioner at Khulna and increasing trade between the two countries.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani: Iran To Hit Iraqi Economic Centers
LD312259 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Interview with 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and Khomeyni's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, by unidentified correspondent, following 31 July meeting of the Supreme Defense Council; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mr Hashemi, could you explain to us the issues discussed at the Supreme Defense Council session this evening?
[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Various issues concerning the Armed Forces, the Guards Corps, the war budget, the fronts, and operational and particularly defensive plans were discussed.

[Correspondent] The Iraqi regime has been attacking our towns using one pretext or another. How do you view this matter and how has the Council decided to respond to such crimes?
[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] We have always held the view that Iraq resorts to fomenting crises and then making a big fuss so as to try and save itself by taking cover under the storm of these crises when it regards itself as weak at the warfronts and when it becomes dispondent in the theaters of war. We are always aware of when Iraq feels insecure at the fronts; it is then that such mischief happens. We foresaw and are now witnessing the truth of our views — such misdeeds by Iraq — and therefore we have prepared ourselves for such a stage. Naturally, we feel bitter, very bitter, about dragging the war into cities, workshops, places where civilians live, and that is why we exercised restraint for a long time. We consider it unmanly to attack civilians, at their workshops, at their places of work, people who are not directly involved in the war. We cannot strafe, bomb, shell, or rocket such people. This is truly evil and criminal. We have always kept our cool and resorted to warnings in our speeches and announcements. We usually threaten and issue a final warning and ultimatum — as we have done before — and last of all, when no results can be achieved, we have to resort to punitive missions. We have no other choice in this case but to retaliate in kind.

However, we have the restraint not to go beyond what is necessary. That is to say, Iraq has attempted many attacks against economic centers; examples are attacks mounted against a bus terminal at Sanandaj — some correspondents have visited the spot — and the living quarters in Azak industrial area and also in Haftappeh. The Iraqi pilots do not have any defense for this. They have dropped bombs wherever they see an easy target and they have done so in total savagery.

We may have been able to control our feelings and not act in this manner before. However, we have decided to counteract, to hit Iraqi economic, industrial, and military centers with the same frequency that they attack us. We will use missiles, aircraft, and artillery. I am issuing a warning, right now, that Iraqi residents whose residence happens to be near military or industrial centers in Iraq — be they in Baghdad or near Basra, al-'Amarah, Kirkuk, and Al-Nasiriyah, they must stay away from the above places. We cannot let them know where we will attack first. I am warning all Iraqi people that they must keep away from places that may be the target chosen by us. This ultimatum remains in force until the Iraqis stop attacking our economic centers. The people of Iraq may return to their homes safely when the Iraqis announce a halt to their attacks or when a few days elapse without any attacks, confirming that they intend to halt these act.

[Correspondent] Mr Hashemi, what are the factors governing the future actions of the Islamic combatants; and what sort of cooperation is needed by the personel at the fronts that must be accorded by the public?
[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] Future plans are not governed by any specific criteria except for the usual military conditions that are specific to a locality; this refers to mobility, forces, equipment, and readiness. Politically speaking, we have various considerations. Many issues have been resolved. Our hands are free as far as these matters are concerned. Naturally, we will view various factors at given times so as to determine a locality of interest. The most important factor in future actions is that of the presence of the popular forces so that we may pursue the principle of continuity in the military field. This is an important military principle.

I would like to point something out: Recently many officials, both connected with the war effort and others, have spoken amply about the victorious end to the war and also about the year of victory, as well as about many victories. These may have painted a series of images in the minds of the public. The imam spoke of the year of victory in terms of what we have been pursuing, and also that we will achieve all goals with the help of the nation and of the Armed Forces. The above does not mean that the war will come to an end. As we promised, and have been carried out, we have carried out remarkable missions and gained considerable victories. We hope to gain more considerable victories this year. God willing and with the divine will for our enlightenment, the victory of Iran in war will become clearer, and we believe that when all supporters of Saddam become disappointed with Saddam's resistance then victory will be ours and the war will come to an end in our favor. That will be the time when the views held by the Islamic Republic of Iran will be carried out. There is no reason not to end the war this year. But this means that more remarkable victories are already planned.

[Correspondent] I also have a few questions to ask in connection with regional matters. In connection with the U.S. warning to Iran following your Friday prayer sermon in which you had passed on some advice to the countries of the region — what is your response to this?
[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] As to these warnings, well, the Americans have up to now been similarly impudent on two to three occasions. What we said is what we have said in the past. We said that our neighboring countries, with whom we have no wish to become involved — we have always advised them to (?face up) to realities and not to place so many of their facilities, their oil money which they are, so to speak, auctioning off, not to place these at the disposal of Iraq enabling that country to turn these into bombs directed at our industrial and economic centers. If these countries wish to continue this policy, of course we will hold them responsible, that is, we shall consider them as activists in this war. We reserve the right also to take our revenge on them, but it is not as if we have decided to enter into war with them. We will consider them as partners in this crime if they continue in the

future, and we reserve this right for ourselves with the hope that they will not continue to do this. [words indistinct] but this does not at all mean that we now intend to expand the war, just as we have said on so many occasion, and every ambiguous sentence that we have uttered must not be analysed too deeply.

The Americans have taken advantage of this ambiguous sentence and declared that if U.S. vital interests in the Persian Gulf are jeopardized the United States will not stand aside. First, it is very strange that the United States, which is thousands of kilometers across the seas, happens to have some vital interests here, next to our country. I do not know how the countries of the southern Persian Gulf can tolerate this humiliation, that an aggressor super-power declares that it has some vital interests in these countries, that its interests will be in danger in these parts. This is an insult to any independent country and the Gulf countries are not giving any answer to this.

But we have also proved up to now that we are not frightened by U.S. threats. We believe that the path we have chosen is a just one, and we shall continue this path. We ourselves want security in the Persian Gulf region more than the Americans, and up to now we have preserved it. I hope that through our councils and advice to our neighbors they will become wiser and confront Islamic (?realities) more wisely and justly, and not follow things in the way they have with their Muslim revolutionary neighbor.

Khamene'i Warns of Attacks

LD011253 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Aug 86

[Text] According to a report by the correspondents of the Central News Unit, the politico-religious Friday prayers ceremonies were held in most parts of the country today. Tehran's Muslim citizens, too, by attending Tehran University, today observed these politico-religious ceremonies under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran's Friday imam.

In his Friday prayers sermon in Tehran today, Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i stressed that the elections constitute an important issue and obligation, and called on the people to take part in the midterm elections of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and to vote for the candidates of their choice.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council then referred to the question of the insane, criminal raids on civilian areas and said: Iraqi raids on civilian areas reveal Iraq's weakness and helplessness, and our decisive duty is to expose the architect of these crimes whose hideous face has become known to all throughout the world, and to exact retribution from the perpetrators of these crimes.

Empathizing with the families of the martyrs who fell during the barbarous Iraqi raids against the country's civilian centers, including Arak, Sanandaj, and Do Rud, the president of the republic emphasized: With regard to retaliating in similar fashion, we have often said and demonstrated that we have the necessary patience. It is not such that the moment the enemy resorts to an insane action we should become excited and irrational. We never act hastily, but with regard to a system. That includes those to whom aggression has become second nature, and those who cannot rule without aggression — we will not overlook aggression. What else could one do with such a system except retaliate similarly? We hereby candidly proclaim that we will use all capabilities — aircraft, artillery, and rockets — to turn into targets Iraq's industrial centers, even if they are in the heart of Baghdad!

Saying that we have not initiated the war of the cities and even have refrained from retaliating similarly, for 2 of 3 years, and that one can no longer tolerate this state of affairs, Mr Khamene'i added: Yesterday we warned that those who live close to Iraq's industrial centers or garrisons should leave their place of residence. However, on that day when Iraq would unilaterally declare that it would not strike at us, we, too, would not strike back. And should Iraq refrain from launching any raids during the next few days, the Iraqi people could return to their places of residence.

Continuing his speech, Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the republic, addressed world public opinion by saying: Let the world peoples recognize our enemy so that they do not ask us why we do not make peace with this aggressor regime! Can one compromise and make peace with a ruling system that cannot continue its life except with aggression and offensive means?! As long as Saddam and the 'Aflaqite system exist, the region will not see tranquillity. For the sake of the peace of mind of the nations of Iran, Iraq, and the Persian Gulf we believe it necessary to strive to extirpate the roots of the 'Aflaqite system.

Calling on the combatants, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: We will retaliate in similar fashion, only a genuine retaliation on the fronts. The long-term objective of the system of the Islamic Republic is establishing peace in the region, a fact that will be achieved by you, combatants, on the fronts! Now that arrogance has pinned its hope on Saddam's existence, we have no better way of dashing the hopes of arrogance except launching attacks on the fronts!

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council added: Following the policy of plunging the price of oil, arrogance raided our industrial centers, imagining that by such action it could destroy the Islamic Republic; and you saw for yourselves what a mistake it made! A nation and society that pins its faith on God and has grown, thanks to the revolution, is too strong to allow such incidents to harm it. Following the plot of reducing the price of oil, we delivered the blow of Al-Faw and Mehran in Karbala'-1 Operation at Iraq; and the more they go ahead, the more blows we will deliver on them!

In conclusion, the president referred to the issue of education and training, and, emphasizing the fact that education and training constitute one of the most important sectors in society and cannot be managed without help and cooperation from the people, called on the people to purchase the bonds printed by the Ministry of Education in order to help schoolchildren.

Khomeyni Casts Ballot in Midterm Elections

LD011143 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Aug 86

[Text] The midterm elections for the second term of the Islamic Consultative Assembly started at 0700 hours this morning in Tehran and 10 other electoral constituencies: Malavi, Bojnurd, Torbat-e Heydariyeh, Mahshahr, Ramhormoz, Damghan, Tonekabon, Karaj, Khorramshahr, and Shadegan. According to the report of the Central News Unit, the Imam Khomeyni participated in the midterm elections of the second term of the Islamic Consultative Assembly around 0800 hours this morning. He cast his vote in the mobile ballot box No 110. Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president; Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Majlis; Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni; and Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister, also voted for the candidates of their choice.

Sarmadi on USSR Withdrawal From Afghanistan

LD312211 Tehran IRNA in English 1734 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran July 31, IRNA — A spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry said here Thursday that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always called for a speedy, unconditional withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

Commenting on the new rounds of talks between foreign ministers of Pakistan and Afghanistan in Geneva, Morteza Sarmadi said that since the beginning of the talks few years ago, Iran had emphatically announced it would not take part in any talks in the absence of Muslim Afghan people.

On the Soviet promise to withdraw all its forces from Afghanistan by the end of the current year, he said if the Soviets kept their promise, the U.S. would have no excuse to continue its growing interference in the region.

On future of Afghanistan, the spokesman said that as a neighbor, Iran has repeatedly announced that it was for an independent and non-aligned Afghanistan. Sarmadi expressed hope that the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan would provide an opportunity for millions of Afghan refugees to return to their homeland.

'Fruitful' Economic Talks With France Conclude

LD311730 Tehran IRNA in English 1332 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 31, IRNA — The ten-man economic French delegation left here for Paris Thursday after a two-day talk with Iranian officials on Irano-France financial disputes.

An official of Iran's Organization for Investment and Economic-Technical Assistance (OIETA) which negotiated with the French delegation, termed the talks as "fruitful" and said that an agreement between the two sides did not seem to be far-fetched. The refusal of France's atomic energy commissary to repay a one-billion-dollar loan it received from OIETA in 1975 is the main subject in Tehran-Paris financial disputes.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,549

LD311616 Tehran IRNA in English 1554 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 31, IRNA — At least 25 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and two enemy vehicles with their passengers destroyed in parts of the southern fronts when shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie forces, Wednesday, said a military communique here Thursday.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2549 said that Iran's Navy intercepted and inspected an oil tanker in the Strait of Hormuz Tuesday but allowed it to continue voyage after being convinced it was not carrying any goods for Iraq. It added that the joint military headquarters of Iraqi forces in Basra as well as an enemy naval base in southeastern Iraq were the target of heavy Iranian artillery fire Tuesday.

Muslim forces of Iran smashed an Iraqi attack on Majnun Island early Tuesday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on Iraqi troops and forcing them to retreat, the communique said.

In Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts, the communique said, several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and four bunkers together with three military vehicles of theirs demolished in artillery duels with Iranian forces which raged more heavily in Sumar.

Two Iraqi patrol units attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Halaleh and Mehran operational theaters sustained casualties and were forced to flee under Iranian artillery fire, it said.

Elsewhere, the communique said that exchange of artillery fire continued in the northwestern fronts Tuesday raging somewhat more heavily in Hajj 'Umran and Panjwin as a result of which parts of Iraqi positions were set ablaze and two enemy munitions dumps destroyed. A number of Iraqi soldiers were also killed or wounded.

Over the same period, Iraqi forces incurred casualties and losses when Iranian forces shelled their positions in Bejliyeh, Pich-e Angizeh, southern fronts, Tuesday, the communique concluded.

School Hit in Bombing of Do Rud

LD311726 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] Do Rud, Lorestan Prov., July 31, IRNA — Iraqi warplanes which bombed a working-class area here shortly after mid-day Thursday, also damaged an educational center in this western city. During the raid, Iraqi planes fired three rockets to Martyr Beheshti Technical School, destroying the school's laboratory.

Meanwhile latest reports on the incident said that the number of martyrs of the Thursday Iraqi bombardment here rose to 20.